

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention. Specifically, Applicants have amended claim 6 to delete recitation of the optional component (E).

Moreover, Applicants are adding new claims 17 and 18 to the application. Claim 17 is dependent on claim 3, and recites processing steps consistent with those set forth in claim 6, with step (I) reciting heating and dissolving the components (B), (C), (D) and (E). Claim 18, dependent on claim 17, recites that the step (III) or (IV) is repeated, or the steps (III) and (IV) are successively carried out.

In connection with new claims 17 and 18, note, for example, the description on pages 12-14 of Applicants' specification, noting particularly the disclosure on page 14, lines 6-11, thereof.

The Examiner is thanked for the indicated allowance of claims 1-5 and 8-16, in the Office Action mailed February 8, 2008. In this Office Action mailed February 8, 2008, the Examiner rejected claims 6 and 7 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112, the Examiner contending that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the recitation "and optionally the component (3) [sic: (E)]" in lines 3 and 4 of claim 6. Applicants have amended claim 6 to delete recitation of the option component (E) therein. In view thereof, and noting that new claim 17 is dependent on claim 3, reciting that the composition further comprises (E), it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112, on page 2 of the Office Action mailed February 8, 2008, is moot.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that newly added claims 17 and 18 should be allowed, based upon the same reasoning that claim 6 has been allowed, and additionally in that the art of record does not disclose, nor would have


suggested, such a process as in claims 17 and 18, including wherein component (E), in addition to components (B), (C) and (D), are heated and dissolved, as in claim 17; and/or wherein the steps (III) and (IV) are carried out as set forth in claim 18.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims presently pending in the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 396.45083X00), and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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